



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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LETTER TO COMMISSION
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: March 7, 2012

SUBJECT: Surf Camp & Tennis Clinic for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to inform you of the exciting programs for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders coming up in March.

Surf Camp - From March 11-16, 2012 (Spring Break) the City of Miami Beach Parks & Recreation and the University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (UM - NSU CARD) will be hosting its long awaited 5th Annual Spring Break Surf Camp for children with autism spectrum disorders. This unique and exciting camp will open its doors to 12 campers, ranging from 8-12 years of age, with high functioning autism, pervasive developmental disorder, or Asperger Syndrome. The participants were chosen after being screened by UM-NSU CARD personnel. Participants can look forward to an educational and fun week as the Parks & Recreation Department and UM-NSU CARD present a unique curriculum that focuses on swimming skills, basic oceanography, meteorology, open water surfing and most importantly the children's abilities. The educational component of the camp will be held out of South Pointe Park and the actual surfing component will be held at the beach adjacent to the park.

First Annual UM-NSU CARD Tennis Clinic - On Sunday, March 18, 2012, 1:00-4:00 pm, the City of Miami Beach Parks and Recreation Department will be partnering with UM-NSU CARD, along with Stefan Wechslerberger of Global Sports Management, Greensquare - Bolletieri Inc. and Andrea Travaglia of Lee & Marie's Cakery to host the First Annual UM-NSU CARD Tennis Clinic for individuals with autism. Participants in the clinic, which will take place at Flamingo Park Tennis Center, will have the opportunity to learn how to play tennis with professional tennis athletes from the Association of Tennis Professional (ATP) tour. The tennis clinic is open to individuals with autism, and will be free of charge. All ages and all functioning levels are welcome. Each participant will receive a racquet donated by HEAD and will receive one-on-one tennis instruction from professional players.

Should you have additional questions, please contact Kevin Smith at (305) 673-7730.

JMG/HMF/LS/JM/g

c: Hilda M. Fernandez, Assistant City Manager
Kevin Smith, Parks & Recreation Director
Julio Magrisso, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director